

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARKS OFFICE**

APPLICANT : Ralf WIEDEMANN et al.  
APPL. NUMBER : 10/560,076  
FILED : December 9, 2005  
FOR : AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINE DETERGENT  
DISPENSING DEVICE  
ART UNIT : 1746

October 3, 2006

**VIA EFS (ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM)**

**REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT**

Sir:

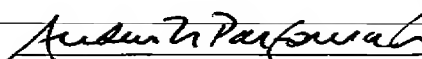
A *Corrected Filing Receipt* (copy attached) for the above-captioned application has been received by Applicant's attorney. Upon review of this document errors were noted. The Patent Office is respectfully requested to make the following corrections and to issue a new and correct *Filing Receipt*:

On the *Corrected Filing Receipt*, the number of total claims is shown as 28. The correct number is 39.

Also, the number of independent claims is shown as 1. The correct number is 3.

In support of the above, we attach a copy of the Preliminary Amendment filed concurrently with the patent application on December 9, 2005. Please issue a *Corrected Filing Receipt* at your earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,  
NORRIS, McLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.



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By:   
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## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/560,076	01/26/2006	1746	3390	102792-507(11270P4 US) <i>ANP</i>	10	<i>28</i>	<i>39</i>

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CONFIRMATION NO. 1082  
 CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT  
  
 \*OC000000020364931\*

Date Mailed: 09/08/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

**Applicant(s)**

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 Judith Preuschen, Ludwigshafen, GERMANY;

**Assignment For Published Patent Application**

Reckitt Benckiser N.V., Hoofddorp, NETHERLANDS

**Power of Attorney:** The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 27389.

**Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant**

This application is a 371 of PCT/GB04/02479 06/09/2004

**Foreign Applications**

UNITED KINGDOM 0313296.6 06/10/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 03/06/2006

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/560,076**

**Projected Publication Date:** Not Applicable

**Non-Publication Request:** No

**Early Publication Request:** No

**Title**

Automatic washing machine detergent dispensing device

**Preliminary Class**

134

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Attorney File Ref: 102792-507 / 11270P4

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Ralf WIEDEMANN, et al.  
Serial No.: -- to be assigned --  
Filed: 09.December.2005  
Examiner: -- to be assigned --  
Art Group: -- to be assigned --  
Title: AUTOMATIC WASHING MACHINE DETERGENT DISPENSING  
DEVICE

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Mail Stop: PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313 - 1450

09.December.2005

Dear Sir;

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This paper accompanies the application filing papers under 35 USC 371 of  
PCT/GB2004/002479.

Prior to calculating the claims fee, without prejudice or traverse please amend the claims  
of the application to read as indicated following.

In the Claims:

- 1.(original) A portable automatic dishwasher detergent dispensing device comprising a body enclosing a detergent or detergent additive, sufficient for a plurality of wash cycles, the body having an inlet aperture to allow wash liquor to contact the detergent and an outlet aperture to allow the detergent loaded wash liquor to exit the body and means to close the one or both of the apertures at or before the start of the dishwasher rinse cycle.
- 2.(original) A portable automatic dishwasher detergent dispensing device comprising a body enclosing a detergent or detergent additive, sufficient for a plurality of wash cycles, the body having an outlet aperture to allow the detergent to exit the body and means to close the outlet aperture at or before the start of the dishwasher rinse cycle.
- 3.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the closing means reacts to a change in the conditions of the dishwasher during the dishwasher washing cycle.
4. (original) A device according to claim 3, wherein the closing means reacts to a change in temperature during the dishwasher washing cycle.
5. (currently amended) A device according to claim 4, wherein the closing means comprises a thermal activator such as a thermal bimetal (~~including conventional thermal bimetals and thermal bimetal-snap elements~~), a wax activator or a shape memory alloy.
6. (currently amended) A device according to claim 5, wherein the thermal bimetal snap element moves a plug between a position in which at least one of the inlet or

~~and/or~~ outlet apertures is closed to a position in which at least one of the inlet or  
~~and/or~~ outlet apertures is open.

- 7.(currently amended) A device according to claim 6, wherein the thermal bimetal snap element has a higher snap temperature of between 30 to 50°C, ~~more preferably between 35 to 45°C and most preferably about 40°C.~~
8. (currently amended) A device according to claim 6 ~~or 7~~, wherein the thermal bimetal snap element has a lower snap temperature of about 20 to 35°C, ~~more preferably between 23 to 27°C and most preferably about 25°C.~~
9. (currently amended) A device according to claim 5, ~~6, 7 or 8~~, wherein the thermal bimetal snap element is in the form of a strip.
- 10.(currently amended) A device according to claim 9, wherein a first portion of the thermal bimetal snap element is attached to or / liases with the device and a second potion of the thermal bimetal snap element is attached to or / liases with the plug.
11. (currently amended) A device according to claim 5, ~~6, 7 or 8~~, wherein the thermal bimetal snap element is in the form of a two dimensional shape.
- 12.(original) A device according to claim 11, wherein the thermal bimetal snap element is retained in the device such that one or more of the peripheries of the thermal bimetal snap element interacts with the plug and the device, moving the plug relative to the device.
- 13.(original) A device according to claim 12, wherein the thermal bimetal snap element is mounted on a plate in the device.

- 14.(original) A device according to claim 13, wherein the mounting means includes a rod extending from the plug which intersects the thermal bimetal snap element.
15. (currently amended) A device according to claim 14, wherein the rod has a terminal flange to retain the thermal bimetal snap element or / interact therewith.
- 16.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein the closing means comprises a plurality of thermal bimetals.
- 17.(currently amended) A device according to claim 16, wherein the device comprises a primary thermal bimetal which affects the interaction of a plug with the inlet or /outlet aperture and a secondary thermal bimetal which affects the operation of the primary thermal bimetal.
- 18.(original) A device according to claim 17, wherein the primary thermal bimetal is a conventional thermal bimetal having an activation temperature of about 40°C.
- 19.(currently amended) A device according to claim 17 ~~or 18~~, wherein the secondary thermal bimetal comprises a thermal bimetallic snap element having a higher snap temperature of about 40°C and a lower snap temperature of about 25°C.
- 20.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein the closing means reacts to the presence of water / humidity in the dishwasher.
- 21.(currently amended) A device according to claim 20, wherein the closing means swells upon contact with water causing the closing of one or both of the inlet ~~and~~ / or outlet apertures.



- 22.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 21~~, wherein the device comprises a auxiliary chamber disposed adjacent the main body of the device external to the inlet or ~~and~~ outlet apertures.
- 23.(original) A device according to claim 22, wherein the auxiliary chamber comprises a closure means which associates with an access opening.
- 24.(original) A device according to claim 23, wherein the closure means comprises a thermal bimetal.
- 25.(currently amended) A device according to claim 22, wherein the device is for use in the dispense of a liquid and/or powder ~~liquid/powder~~ detergent formulation.
- 26.(original) A device according to claim 25, wherein the auxiliary chamber access opening closure means operates in synchronisation with the closure means of the outlet of the main body.
- 27.(original) A device according to claim 26, wherein a linkage is disposed between the auxiliary closure means and the main body closure means.
- 28.(original) A device according to claim 27, wherein the device comprises a second linkage accessible by a user from the exterior of the device.
- 29.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 28~~, wherein the device comprises a second means to control the amount of wash liquor which enters the inlet aperture.
- 30.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 29, wherein the means comprises a collecting funnel.

- 31.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 30,  
wherein the collecting funnel has a drainage opening in its collecting portion.
- 32.(currently amended) A device according to claim 1 ~~in accordance with any one  
of claims 1 to 31~~, wherein the body comprises a water-resistant or / water  
insoluble material.
- 33.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 32,  
wherein the body comprises a channel which is in communication with the inlet  
aperture.
- 34.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 33,  
wherein the channel has a bar of detergent disposed therein with the detergent bar  
completely filling at least a portion of the channel across the entire bore thereof.
- 35.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 34,  
wherein the channel has a uniform bore, in terms of the cross sectional area of the  
bore, along its length / at least along the portion filled by the detergent bar.
- 36.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 35,  
wherein the channel is a tube.
- 37.(original) A portable automatic dishwasher detergent additive dispensing device  
comprising a body enclosing a detergent additive, sufficient for a plurality of  
wash cycles, the body having an inlet aperture to allow wash liquor to contact the  
detergent and an outlet aperture to allow the detergent loaded wash liquor to exit  
the body and means to open one or both of the apertures at or after the start of the  
dishwasher rinse cycle.

38.(currently amended) A device according to ~~in accordance with~~ claim 37,  
wherein the detergent additive is a anti-spotting composition or a glass corrosion  
prevention composition.

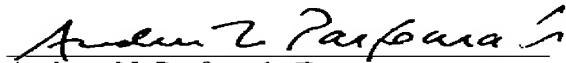
39.(currently amended) The use of an automatic washing machine detergent  
dispensing device according to claim 1 ~~in accordance with any one of claims 1 to~~  
~~38.~~

40.(cancelled)

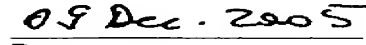
Remarks:

The amendments entered to the claims are not intended to disclaim any patentable subject matter, and are to be entered without prejudice or traverse. The amendments entered address and remove multiple dependencies from the claims of the parent PCT application or to otherwise recast the claims into a form more amenable to US patent practice.

Respectfully Submitted;



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